

## **Chepachet Fire District**

### **Executive Committee – Monthly Meeting**

**April 20, 2011**

**The Chepachet Fire District monthly meeting was held at the Chepachet Fire Station on Wednesday, April 20, 2011.**

**Chairman Mr. Earl Newman called the meeting to order at 6:39pm. Members present were Chairman Earl Newman , Robert Lhor Martone and George Leonhardt. Also present were Treasurer David Steere, Tax Collector Patricia Svansson , District Clerk/Secretary Darlene Shields, Chief Robert Dauphinais and Deputy Chief Dennis Huestis. Absent were Lynda Martone and Jamie Hainsworth.**

#### **Secretary's Report:**

**All members have received copies of the minutes for the March 16th, 2011 meeting for their review.**

**Motion made by Mr. Lohr to accept the minutes as presented, second by Mr. Leonhardt and passed 3–0.**

#### **Tax Collector's Report:**

**Mrs. Svansson advised everyone present that the 164 Warning Letters mailing out on the 15th of March have been very effective. There are 58 accounts remaining unpaid at this time. For the month of March deposits totaled \$55,273.15 in taxes collected. The 90 Day Notices have gone out from the Tax Sale Company there is a \$15.00 fee per letter.**

**Motion made by Mr. Leonhardt to accept the Tax Collector's monthly report, second by Mr. Lohr and passed 3-0.**

**Treasurer Report:**

**Mr. Steere passed out the April 2011 Treasurer's Report. We are currently 83% thru the year and have used 65% of the budget.**

**Most of the accounts are inline and some accounts have gone over but having a bottom line budget we are still well within the budget.**

**Total funds are approximately \$635,000 of which \$332,000 is dedicated money and a \$303,000 is operating funds.**

**Last page of report shows new line item in the dedicated funds account. \$12,000 was appropriated at last year at the annual meeting. It's now shows under the dedicated funds account.**

**Motion made by Mr. Lohr to accept the April Treasurer's Reports and pay monthly bills, second by Mr. Leonhardt and passed 3-0.**

**\*Board Member Lynda Martone is in attendance for the monthly meeting at 642pm**

**Chief's Report:**

**Chief Dauphinais read and submitted the March 2011 Monthly Chief's Reports to be placed on file.**

**Motion made by Mr. Leonhardt accept the Chief's Monthly Reports and place the copies on file, second by Mrs. Martone and passed 4-0.**

**Truck Committee:**

**Fire Truck Committee: Progress: The committee has had meetings with Pierce to go over changes with what was proposed. And the committee is looking to get a cost of the new truck once the changes are made.**

**Old Business: No Old Business**

- 1. Tax Sale Update: Already discussed under Tax Collector's Report**
- 2. Annual Banquet: May 7th Thompson Speedway**

**New Business:**

**1. Proposed 2011/2012 Budget**

**a. Mr. Steere presented a proposed Budget for 2011/2012 Fiscal Year. To start built in is a 3% pay increase for wages and salaries. The negatives numbers (red) are truly positive increases to the budget and the positive numbers (blue) are truly decreases in the line items. One of the big increases expected is insurance. VFIS as has**

indicated there will be a large increase in the personnel and accident policy for next year. The bottom line is a total increase in the budget of \$1751.00. There were a lot of cuts to offset the increases. Changes in revenue for 2011/2012 is the interest last year was expected to be \$1000 this budget is projecting \$500.00 and proposing to take the funds from the third party account to balance the budget which would be \$100,943.00 and with expected taxes collected to remain the same at \$390,000. This proposal will not be taking any funds from the fund balance this year. Mr. Steere also mentioned that this year the Town of Glocester is going through a full revaluation. The early indication is that properties values will be 15-18% less in value overall and this will factor in when setting the Tax Rate this fall. The tax rate may not be able to remain the same at .75c per thousand to be at \$390,000 in Tax Revenue which is needed for the budget. Mr. Steere projected the decrease in property revaluation and an estimated 15% decrease the loss of income could be approximately \$33,000- \$55,000. The tax rate would have to go up to .87 or .88 cents per thousand to make up the estimated 15% property revaluation decrease. Tax Revenue of \$390,000 remains the same once the properties values are assessed that tax rate can be set accordingly. Tax rate has been at .75 cents per thousand for the last 6 years without and increases. Prior to the last 6 years the tax rate was at \$1.00. Mr. Steere asked all board members to review the proposed Budget and contact Darlene Shields with any concerns or changes that need to be addressed. The Budget will need to be approved at next month's monthly meeting.

**Mr. Lohr inquired to when funds will be need for the proposed New Truck the committee is currently working on. Chief Dauphinais estimates that the earliest the funds would be needed would not be until the 2012/2013 Budget. The estimated cost of the new truck is looking to be a minimum of \$450,000. Mr. Steere will be looking into loans once the cost of the new truck is in.**

**2. Slate of Officers:**

**a. The following positions are up this year. Board Member Mr. Lohr 3 year term to expire in 2014, Moderator Kevin Kitson 1 year term to expire in 2012 and Tax Assessor Darlene Shields 3 year term to expire in 2014. All parties have agreed to run for another term. Mrs. Shields will present Chairman Mr. Newman with the Slate of Officers at next month's meeting.**

**Dispense of Executive Session at this time.**

**Next scheduled meeting is the Monthly Meeting on May 18th, 2011 at 6:30pm.**

**With no further business at this time, motion made by Mrs. Martone to adjourn, second by Mr. Lohr and passed 4-0.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:56pm**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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**Darlene L Shields**

**Darlene L. Shields**

**District Clerk / Chepachet Fire District**